

[a] a plurality of positioning [recess] recesses that [is] are formed [in either one of] around a circumference of the first part [and the second part] such that a plurality of said recesses are located in a one-fourth portion of the circumference; and

[a] at least one positioning protrusion that is formed in [either of the other of the first part and] the second part, the positioning protrusion being selectively engageable with the recess [as a rotating operation is carried out] members when threading the first part onto the second part.

2. (Once Amended) An optical [part] linkage device according to Claim 1, wherein the first threaded portion [of the first part] is an external thread, [with one or] and the second part is further comprised of two or more positioning protrusions [being formed continuously at the location of a terminal end of the external thread along-a same circumference].

3. (Once Amended) An optical [part] linkage device according to Claim 2, wherein the second threaded portion [of the second part] is an internal thread, [with a plurality of recesses being formed continuously at an end of the internal thread along a same circumference].

4. (Once Amended) An optical [part] linkage device according to Claim 1, wherein the first part is a lens barrel [to which an image-forming device is mounted].

5. (Once Amended) An optical [part] linkage device according to Claim 4, wherein the second part is a holder for holding the lens barrel, and further wherein an image pickup device [being] is mounted to the holder.

6. (Once Amended) An optical [part] linkage device according to Claim 5, wherein, by selecting a location of engagement [of] for the recess and the protrusion, a desired focal location [with respect to] between the image pickup device and the lens is [fixed by the image-forming device] achieved.

7. (Once Amended) An optical [part] linkage device according to Claim 5, wherein an image-forming-device focus adjustment pitch is determined at least in part by an engagement pitch between the recess and the protrusion elements [, an inside diameter of the lens barrel, and pitches of the threaded portions].

8. (Once Amended) An optical [module including a] linkage structure for [linking] securing a first part and a second part, the first part including a first threaded portion and [holding an image-forming device, and] the second part including a second threaded portion screwable to the first threaded portion [of the first part and holding an image pickup device], wherein the first part and the second part may be comprised of a lens member or a body housing imaging elements, the optical [module] linkage structure comprising:

[a] at least one positioning recess that is formed in [either one of] the first part [and the second part]; and

a plurality of positioning [protrusion] protrusions that [is] are formed [at either of the other of the first part and] around a circumference of the second part such that a plurality of said protrusions are located in one-fourth portion of the circumference, the positioning [protrusion] protrusions being selectively engageable with the recess.

9. (Once Amended) An optical [module] linkage structure according to Claim 8, wherein the first threaded portion [of the first part] is an external thread, [with one or two or

more positioning protrusions being formed continuously at the location of a terminal end of the external thread along a same circumference].

10. (Once Amended) An optical [module] linkage structure according to Claim 9, wherein the threaded portion of the second part is an internal thread[, with a plurality of recesses being formed continuously at an end of the internal thread along a same circumference].

Please add the following new claims:

--11. A method of securing a lens member to an imaging body comprising the steps of:

securing a threaded portion of a lens member to a corresponding threaded portion of an imaging body; and

rotating the lens member with respect to the imaging body such that one or more recess portions intermittently engage one or more positioning protrusions and wherein a one quarter revolution of the lens member with respect to the imaging body results in a plurality of said intermittent engagements between the one or more recess portions and one or more positioning protrusions.--

--12. The method of claim 11 comprising a step of rotating the lens member with respect to the imaging body such that a plurality of recess portions arranged around a circumference of the lens member are intermittently engaged by at least one positioning protrusion formed in the imaging body.--